

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the present Preliminary Amendment be entered, and that the new claims presented herein be considered prior to substantive examination of the present application. Support for the new claims can be found in the specification as filed.

Should anything further be required, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at 702 558-1000 (x3071).

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

101. (NEW) An electrode active material comprising a compound of the formula



wherein

- (a) is an alkali metal;
- (b) $0 < z \leq 1$; and
- (c) M comprises one or more metals, comprising at least one metal which is capable

of undergoing oxidation to a higher valence state;

wherein A, M, and z are selected so as to maintain electroneutrality of said compound.

102. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 1, wherein A comprises Li.

103. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 102, wherein $0 < z \leq 1$.

104. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 101, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of Na, K, mixtures thereof, and mixtures thereof with Li.

105. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 104, wherein A comprises Na.

106. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 101, wherein M comprises a transition metal from Groups 4 to 11 of the Periodic Table.

107. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 106, wherein said transition metal is selected from the group consisting of Fe, Co, Ni, Mn, Cu, V, Zr, Ti, and Cr.

108. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 106, wherein $0 < z \leq 1$.

109. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 101, wherein M comprises $M'^{1-y}M''^y$, where M' is at least one transition metal from Groups 4 to 11 of the Periodic Table; M'' is at least one element which is from Group 2, 3, 12, 13, or 14 of the Periodic Table; and $0 \leq y < 1$.

110. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 109, wherein $0 < y < 1$.

111. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 109, wherein M' is selected from the group consisting of Fe, Co, Ni, Mn, Cu, V, Zr, Ti, Cr, and mixtures thereof.

112. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 111, wherein M' is selected from the group consisting of Fe, Co, Mn, Cu, V, Cr, and mixtures thereof.

113. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 109, wherein M'' is selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ca, Zn, Sr, Pb, Cd, Sn, Ba, Be, Al, and mixtures thereof.

114. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 113, wherein M" is selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ca, Zn, Ba, Al, and mixtures thereof.

115. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 109, wherein $0 < z \leq 1$.

116. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 101, wherein M comprises two or more transition metals from Groups 4 to 11 of the Periodic Table.

117. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 116, wherein said transition metals are selected from the group consisting of Fe, Co, Ni, Mn, Cu, V, Zr, Ti, and Cr.

118. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 116, wherein $0 < z \leq 1$.

119. (NEW) An electrode active material according to Claim 116, wherein $0 < y < 1$.